

School is back in full swing!

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Wisconsin Farm to School

Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

September 15, 2015 | Are you ready for National Farm to School month?

In today's Wisconsin Farm to School newsletter, you will find:

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General Updates



October is National Farm to School Month!

Materials now available for download, including: stickers, posters, logos, and the [Farm to School Month Communications Toolkit 2015](#)

Spread the word: [#F2SMonth](#) and [#farmtoschool](#)

Great Lakes Great Apple Crunch – Sign Up Now

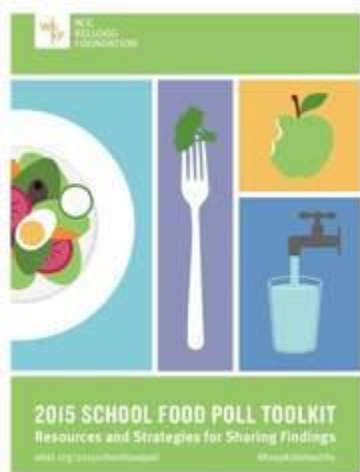
Did you Crunch last year? Do you want to Crunch this year? [Sign up here](#) to participate in the Second Annual Great Lakes Great Apple Crunch. This is a simple way to feature your farm to school work in a loud way. At NOON on Thursday, October 22 we'll all Crunch into a healthy, delicious local or regional apple to show our support for National Farm to School Month and Food Day 2015. [Sign up here](#) to receive your Crunch Guide chock full of ideas for planning, promoting, sharing and educating around your event - and you'll receive the 2015 Great Lakes Great Apple Crunch logo too! Be sure to "Like" the [Facebook page](#) to stay up to date on the latest news. Let everyone know you are participating in the Crunch by using the hashtags **#GreatAppleCrunch** **#F2SMonth** and **#FoodDay2015** on your favorite social media.

When WI schools sign up they will be registered for a great garden give away from McKay's nursery; they will receive a WI-specific Crunch guide; and they will receive stickers for the kids and a F2S Month poster (while supplies last). We will start sending out the Crunch guide on August 21, and mailing packets on September 15, so sign up today!

Join us at noon on Thursday, October 22, 2015



New Tools and Resources



WK Kellogg 2015 School Food Poll

The W.K. Kellogg Foundation recently commissioned the 2015 School Food Poll to understand how attitudes have changes since the implementation of the new school food nutrition standards. Among the findings: **9 out of 10** people in the U.S. support the national school nutrition standards and **88%** support increased government funding to expand farm to school programs. [Read a full summary of the 2015 School Food Poll here.](#) #KeepKidsHealthy

[Growing Healthy Children](#) – a chance to win FREE books!

In celebration of Farm to School Month, the Wisconsin School Garden Initiative is proud to announce the publication of its newest resource, *Growing Healthy Children* (GHC)! *GHC* is an at-a-glance toolkit for teaching garden-based nutrition education in your classroom, cafeteria, or in the garden itself. For more information – and a chance to win free books – [visit here](#). #GrowingHealthyChildren



Webinars, Conferences and Events

Wisconsin Grant Training Workshops

UW-Extension in partnership with USDA, SARE, DATCP and Michael Fields Agricultural Institute, hosts 4 one-day **Agricultural Grants Workshops** held at 4 different locations around the state that help farmers and other value-added food entrepreneurs learn about potential grants, get the basics on putting together a strong grant proposal, learn about cost share programs and other financing options. The workshop consists of five main components:

- An overview to agricultural grants, grant writing and what makes a strong grant proposal.
- A lunch-time presentation from a local grant awardee talking about his/her grant experience.
- Description and overview of Ag Grants from grant managers for USDA Value Added Producer Grant, USDA-SARE Farmer Rancher Grant, USDA Specialty Crop Block Grant, and WI-DATCP Buy Local, Buy Wisconsin Grant.
- A role-playing group exercise that allows participants to review actual proposals and gain hands-on experience at grant-writing.

Specific info on other financial options (FSA loans, traditional bank loans and NRCS cost share programs) specific to Wisconsin.

2015 locations:

- Thursday, September 17th – Western WI - Hixton
- Friday, September 18th – Northern WI - Merrill
- Wednesday, September 23rd – Southeastern WI – West Bend
- Wednesday, September 30th – Southwestern WI – Platteville

Farm to School Funding Opportunities

SARE Research and Education

The 2016 North Central Region Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program (NCR-SARE) Research and Education Grant Program Call for Preproposals is now available online at <http://www.northcentralsare.org/Grants/Our-Grant-Programs/Research-and-Education> NCR-SARE's Research and Education (R&E) program supports sustainable agriculture innovators with competitive research and education grants. Individual grants range from \$50,000 to \$200,000. NCR-SARE expects to fund about nine to ten projects in the twelve-state North Central Region.

NCR-SARE will be accepting online submissions for the Research and Education Grant Program using our online submission system. More information about the online submission system can be found in the call for preproposals. The deadline for Research and Education Program preproposals is October 22, 2015 at 4pm CDT. NCR-SARE administers each of its grant programs with specific goals, audiences, and timelines. The focus for each of the NCR-SARE grant programs is on research and education. Funding considerations are made based on the relevance and potential of the project to increase the sustainability of agriculture in the region, as well as how well the applicant articulates the research and education components of their sustainable agriculture grant proposals.



Captain Planet Foundation Grant

The Captain Planet Foundation provides grants of up to \$2,500 to school and community groups to support hands-on environmental projects. Applications are accepted twice a year. The next deadline is September 30, 2015.

Farm to School Job Openings



A limited number of WI Farm to School AmeriCorps positions are still available for the 2015-2016 School Year!

Please contact the Program Director Dominique Bradley at Dominique.Bradley@wisconsin.gov for more information and specify which position and location you are interested in.



Welcome to the 2015-2016 WI Farm to School AmeriCorps Members! We're so excited to have you on-board.

Farm to School Media Mentions



Congratulations Alice Waters!

Congratulations to the [Edible Schoolyard Project's](#) founder Alice Waters for receiving the [National Humanities Medal](#) from President Obama.

The honor cited Alice "for celebrating the bond between the ethical and the edible" and for championing "a holistic approach to eating and health that integrates gardening, cooking, and education, sparking inspiration in a new generation."

In her remarks, Alice emphasized: "It is my belief that when we bring all children to the table, and feed them a sustainable, delicious, and free school meal,

we nourish not only their minds and bodies but our democracy."

FOR MORE INFORMATION, contact DATCP's Sarah Elliott at 608-224-5046 or sarah.elliott@wisconsin.gov.